

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) An enteral, peptide-based composition comprising:
a protein source consisting of enzymatically hydrolyzed whey and free amino acids wherein the protein source provides approximately 15% to 18% of energy of the composition, and wherein said protein source is the sole protein source of the composition;

a carbohydrate source; and

a lipid source including a mixture of medium and long chain triglycerides, the enteral composition having a caloric density of 1.4 kcal/mL to 1.8 kcal/mL, wherein the composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least 90:1.

Claim 2 (original) The enteral composition of Claim 1 wherein the lipid source comprises approximately 20% to 50% of the calorie distribution of the composition.

Claim 3 (original) The enteral composition of Claim 1 including 100% of U.S. RDA of vitamins and minerals in approximately 1500 kcal.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (original) The enteral composition of Claim 1 wherein the composition includes per 1500 kcal of composition:

a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;

a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;

a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;

a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and

a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg.

Claim 6 (original) The enteral composition of Claim 1 further including a source of beta-carotene.

Claim 7 (currently amended) A method for providing nutrition to a metabolically stressed patient comprising the step of administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an enteral, peptide-based composition comprising:

a protein source comprising approximately 15% to 18% of the calorie distribution of the composition, the protein source consisting of enzymatically hydrolyzed whey and free amino acids, and wherein said protein source is the sole protein source of the composition;

a carbohydrate source;

a lipid source ;

the enteral composition having a caloric density of 1.4 kcal/mL to 1.8 kcal/mL; and

the composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least approximately 90:1.

Claim 8 (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the lipid source comprises approximately 20% to 50% of the calorie distribution of the composition.

Claim 9 (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition includes 100% of U.S. RDA of vitamins and minerals in approximately 1500 kcal.

Claim 10 (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition is fed through a tube to the patient.

Claim 11 (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition contains approximately 0.37% of the calories as cysteine.

Claim 12 (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition includes per 1500 kcal of composition:

a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;

a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;

a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;

a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and

a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg.

Claim 13 (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition further includes a source of beta- carotene.

Claim 14 (currently amended) An enteral, peptide-based composition for a metabolically stressed patient comprising:

about 15% to 18% of the calorie distribution of the composition including a protein source consisting of enzymatically hydrolyzed whey and free amino acids, and wherein said protein source is the sole protein source of the composition;

a carbohydrate source comprising at least 35% of the composition;
a lipid source comprising at least 20 by weight of the composition; and
the composition having a caloric density of 1.4 kcal/mL to 1.8 kcal/mL and a ratio of non-protein calories per gram of nitrogen of at least about 90:1.

Claim 15 (original) The enteral composition of Claim 14 which includes, per 1500 kcal:

a zinc source providing from about 28.5 to about 43.5 mg zinc;
a vitamin C source providing about 405 to 615 mg vitamin C;
a selenium source providing about 60 to about 90 mg selenium;
a taurine source providing about 120 to about 180 mg taurine; and
a L-carnitine source providing about 120 to about 180 mg L-carnitine.

Claim 16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (original) The enteral composition of Claim 14 wherein the composition further comprises from about 0.1% to 2.0% free amino acids.

Claim 18 (original) The enteral composition of Claim 14 including at least 0.1% free amino acid.

Claim 19 (currently amended) A method for providing nutrition to a metabolically stressed patient comprising the step of administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an enteral, peptide-based composition comprising:

a protein source comprising approximately 15% to 18% of the calorie distribution of the composition, the protein source consisting of enzymatically hydrolyzed whey and free amino acids, and wherein said protein source is the sole protein source of the composition;

a carbohydrate source;
a lipid source ;
the enteral composition having a caloric density of 1.4 kcal/mL to 1.8 kcal/mL; and
the composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least approximately 90:1.

Claim 20 (original) The method of Claim 19 wherein the composition includes 100% of U.S. RDA of vitamins and minerals in approximately 1500 kcal.

Claim 21 (original) The method of Claim 19 wherein the composition includes per 1500 kcal of composition:

- a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;
- a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;
- a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;
- a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg;
- a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and
- a source of beta- carotene.

Claim 22 (original) The method of Claim 19 wherein the composition further comprises at least 0.1% free amino acids.